

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for transferring information over a forward/reverse link pair between a transmitting entity and a receiving entity comprising the steps of:
receiving, at said receiving entity, blocks of data over said forward link;
determining a quality level of at least one of said received data blocks and said forward link; and
transmitting, over said reverse link, an indicator to said transmitting entity which indicates a status of incremental redundancy combining at said receiving entity.

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2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
transmitting, with said indicator over said reverse link, at least one link quality estimate based on a result of said determining step.

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3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
transmitting, with said indicator over said reverse link, a modulation/coding scheme command.

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4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
selecting, at said transmitting entity, a modulation/coding scheme for transmitting subsequent data blocks on said forward link based on said indicator.

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5. The method of claim 4, wherein said step of selecting further comprises the step of:

selecting a more robust modulation/coding scheme if said indicator informs said transmitting entity that incremental redundancy combining may be unavailable at said receiving entity.

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6. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

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selecting, at said transmitting entity, a modulation/coding scheme for transmitting subsequent data blocks on said forward link based on said indicator and said link quality measurements.

- 5 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said step of selecting further comprises the step of:

selecting a more robust modulation/coding scheme than otherwise needed based on said link quality measurements if said indicator informs said transmitting entity that incremental redundancy combining may be unavailable at said receiving entity.

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The method of claim 3, wherein said transmitting entity selects a first modulation/coding scheme for new blocks based on said modulation/coding scheme command and a second modulation/coding scheme for retransmitted blocks based on said indicator.

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9. A method for transferring information over a forward/reverse link pair between a transmitting entity and a receiving entity comprising the steps of:

transmitting, by said transmitting entity, an indicator associated with resegmentation of blocks to be retransmitted by said receiving entity;

- 20 selecting a modulation/coding scheme, at said receiving entity, based on said indicator; and

retransmitting, by said receiving entity, data over said reverse link based using said selected modulation/coding scheme.

- 25 10. The method of claim 9, wherein said step of selecting a modulation/coding scheme further comprises the step of:

selecting a more robust modulation/coding scheme for retransmission than was used for original transmission if a resegmentation value is indicated.

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11. The method of claim 9, wherein said step of selecting a modulation/coding scheme further comprises the step of:

selecting a same modulation/coding scheme for retransmission as was used for original transmission if a not resegmentation value is indicated.

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The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:
transmitting, with said indicator, a modulation/coding scheme command.

13. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

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transmitting, with said indicator, at least one link quality measurement.

14. A method for transmitting data blocks between a transmitting entity and a receiving entity over a forward and a reverse link comprising the steps of:

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15 receiving entity of whether resegmentation of retransmitted blocks is preferred; and
transmitting over said reverse link, a second indicator informing said transmitting entity of a status of incremental redundancy combining at said receiving entity.

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15. A receiver comprising:
a processor for processing received data blocks;
a memory for storing received data blocks to be combined with retransmitted versions of said stored data blocks; and
means for transmitting a message indicating a status of said memory.

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